

**Crane (HB 1989)**

**Act No. 306**

Prior law required all high-rise buildings to be protected throughout by an approved fire protection sprinkler system by January 1, 1999. Allowed the state fire marshal to grant an extension of one year to those owners who had made a good faith effort to comply with the requirement.

New law retains prior law but allows the fire marshal to grant one-year extensions of time to complete the installation of a fire protection system to those existing high-rise buildings that were not in compliance on January 1, 1999, but which have approved written plans to install such a system, provided that the building has sufficient and adequate fire protection systems to assure that undue risk to human life and safety is not created by occupancy above the 75 foot level. Allows the fire marshal to grant a reasonable extension of time for compliance upon a showing of a statement of certification that the building be demolished or substantially remodeled within five years of the effective date of the Act and sufficient and adequate fire protection systems to assure that undue risk to human life is not created by occupancy above the 75 foot level.

New law requires that any state-owned hospital or parish prison has until January 1, 2005, to complete installation of the required fire sprinkler system provided that the building has sufficient and adequate fire protection systems such that human occupancy above the 75 foot level does not create an undue risk to human life and safety.

New law specifies what actions are sufficient and adequate fire protection systems such that undue risk to human life and safety are not created.

Effective upon signature of governor (June 14, 1999).

(Amends R.S. 40:1643(C))